

Appl. No. 10/723,005
Amdt.AF dated July 5, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of April 10, 2006

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REMARKS

Applicants have received and carefully reviewed the Advisory Action mailed June 20, 2006, as well as the Final Office Action mailed April 10, 2006. From a review of the Advisory Action, it is noted that the claim amendments filed June 8, 2006 have been entered. Thus, the claim amendments presented herein are formatted accordingly.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claims 11-17 and the indication of potential allowability of claim 2 if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims, but believe that all of the claims are patentable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the remaining elements of claim 2, which has subsequently been canceled. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 3, 4 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173. Claim 1, from which claims 3, 4 and 9 depend, has been amended to include the remaining elements of claim 2, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejection, particularly as the Examiner has not demonstrated that the cited references disclose or suggest the elements of claim 2 that were previously added to claim 1, i.e., that movement of the vehicle is enabled when communication between the vehicle and an authorized key is established. Nevertheless, in order to move this application to allowance, the remaining elements of claim 2 have been moved into claim 1. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. U.S. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173, and further in view of Leigh-Monstevens et al., U.S. Patent No.

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5,014,038. Claim 1, from which claims 5-8 depend, has been distinguished above as patentable over the combination of Rhodes et al. and Boersma. Leigh-Monstevens et al. are not believed to remedy the noted shortcomings of the other references. Thus, because claim 1 is believed patentable, dependent claims 5-8 are believed similarly patentable. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173, and further in view of Harada et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,948,469. Claim 1, from which claim 10 depends, has been distinguished above as patentable over the combination of Rhodes et al. and Boersma. Harada et al. do not remedy the noted shortcomings of the other references. Thus, because claim 1 is believed patentable, dependent claim 10 is believed similarly patentable. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action mailed April 10, 2006, the Examiner had rejected claims 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173, and further in view of Flick, U.S. Patent No. 6,812,829. Given that the Advisory Action mailed June 20, 2006, indicates that claims 11-17 are allowed, Applicants believe that this rejection has been withdrawn and thus provide no further comments thereon.

In the Final Office Action mailed April 10, 2006, the Examiner had rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173, and further in view of Flick, U.S. Patent No. 6,812,829, and Leigh-Monstevens et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,014,038. Given that the Advisory Action mailed

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June 20, 2006, indicates that claims 11-17 are allowed, Applicants believe that this rejection has been withdrawn and thus provide no further comments thereon.

In the Final Office Action mailed April 10, 2006, the Examiner had rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,465,559, in view of Boersma, U.S. Patent No. 4,131,173, and further in view of Fhck, U.S. Patent No. 6,812,829, Leigh-Monstevens et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,014,038, and Harada et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,948,469. Given that the Advisory Action mailed June 20, 2006, indicates that claims 11-17 are allowed, Applicants believe that this rejection has been withdrawn and thus provide no further comments thereon.

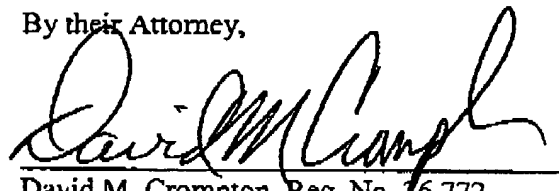
Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi Ichikawa et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: 7/5/06


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